

an elongate wall separating each store, each wall having a doorway, with the doorways being aligned with each other; and

*B1*  
an aisle passing through each doorway such that a customer may visualize at least some of the interior of each store while standing in the aisle and looking down the aisle.

2. (As filed) A system as in claim 1, wherein the walls generally prevent the visualization of the items within adjacent stores when the customer is away from the aisle.

3. (As filed) A system as in claim 1, wherein each store includes four outer walls.

4. (As filed) A system as in claim 3, wherein the walls are orthogonal to each other.

Claim 5 was previously cancelled.

6. (As filed) A system as in claim 1, wherein each store includes items of a particular type, and wherein the item types for each store are different from each other.

7. (As filed) A system as in claim 1, wherein each wall includes a pair of doorways, and wherein the aisle circuits through each store while passing through the doorways.

8. (As filed) A system as in claim 1, wherein each store is independently managed.

9. (As filed) A system as in claim 1, wherein each doorway includes a door which may be closed to prevent access to the stores from within the stores.

10. (As filed) A system as in claim 1, further comprising a warehouse connected to at least some of the stores.

B2

11. (Once amended) A building for housing groups of inventory items, the building comprising:  
an outer structure defining an interior;  
a plurality of elongate dividers within the interior which divide the interior into separate stores, wherein each divider includes a pair of openings therein, wherein the outer structure includes a plurality of external doorways, with each store having its own external doorway, and wherein the external doorways lead directly to a parking facility to allow customers which park in the parking facility to enter into each of the separate stores through their own external doorways directly from the parking facility; and  
an aisle circuiting the interior and passing through each pair of the openings, wherein a customer may walk along the aisle to circuit through each of the stores.

12. (As filed) A building as in claim 11, wherein each store includes a unique group of inventory items.

13. (As filed) A building as in claim 11, wherein the each pair of openings are aligned the other pairs of openings to allow the customer to view at least some of the interior of each store when looking down the aisle.

14. (As filed) A building as in claim 13, wherein the walls generally prevent the visualization of the items within adjacent stores when the customer is away from the aisle.

15. (As filed) A building as in claim 11, further comprising a gate which may be placed across each opening to prevent access to adjacent stores from within the stores.

B3

16. (Twice amended) A system for visually displaying unique groups of inventory items, the system comprising:  
an outer structure having a set of outer walls which define an interior;

a parking facility in front of a front one of the outer walls;

a sidewalk disposed along the front outer wall between the front outer wall and the parking facility;

a plurality of elongate dividers within the interior which divide the interior into at least three separate stores, wherein each divider includes at least one opening therein to allow customers to pass through each of the stores; and

wherein each store includes a unique group of inventory items, and wherein the dividers are arranged such that a customer when within the interior can generally visualize only one of the unique groups of items at any given location within the interior, and wherein the unique groups are selected from the groups consisting of bed mattresses, wood bedroom furniture, oak furniture and living room furniture;

wherein each store has at least one separate outside entrance which leads directly to the parking facility after passing over the sidewalk to allow customers which park in the parking facility to enter into each of the separate stores through their own outside entrances directly from the parking facility.

Claim 17 was previously cancelled.

18. (As filed) A system as in claim 16, further comprising an aisle running through and connecting each opening.

19. (As filed) A system as in claim 18, wherein the openings are aligned with each other to allow the customer to view at least some of the interior of each store when looking down the aisle.

20. (As filed) A system as in claim 19, wherein each divider includes a pair of openings, and wherein the aisle circuits through each store while passing through the openings.

21. (Twice amended) A method for presenting inventory items, comprising:

providing [a plurality of] at least three stores which are separated from each other by elongate walls, each wall having a doorway, with the doorways being aligned with each other, wherein each store has its own outside entrance;

entering into a parking facility adjacent the outside entrances;

Selecting one of the outside entrances and entering into the selected outside entrance directly from the parking facility;

moving to and standing in an aisle which passes through each doorway;

looking down the aisle and visualizing at least some of the interior of each store,

Selecting an item within one of the stores; and purchasing the item while within the store.

22. (As filed) A method as in claim 21, further comprising moving away from the aisle and visually scanning the inventory of items within one of the stores, wherein visualization of the inventory items in the other stores is substantially prevented by the walls.

23. (As filed) A method as in claim 21, wherein the walls have a pair of doorways, wherein the aisle circuits through each store while passing through the doorways, and further comprising walking the length of the aisle to circuit through each building.

24. (As filed) A method as in claim 21, wherein each store includes a unique group of inventory items, and wherein the dividers are arranged such that a customer when within a particular store can generally visualize only one of the unique groups of items at any given location within the store.

25. (Once amended) A method for presenting inventory items, the method comprising:

providing [**a plurality of**] at least three stores which are separated from each other by an elongate wall, each wall having a [**doorway**] pair of doorways, and wherein the doorways are in alignment with each other, and wherein each store has its own outside entrance;

walking through one of the outside entrances directly from a parking facility and moving to an aisle which circuits through each pair of doorways;

B<sup>5</sup>  
standing in the aisle and looking the length of the aisle to visualize at least part of the interior of each store;

selecting a desired store;

walking along the aisle to circuit through every doorway and every store, and stopping [until] within the desired store;

visually scanning the inventory of items within the desired store while standing away from the aisle, wherein visualization of the inventory items in the other stores is substantially prevented by the walls; and

selecting a desired item within the desired store.

26. (As filed) A method as in claim 25, further comprising returning to the aisle and selecting another store.

Please cancel claim 27.

28. (As filed) A method as in claim 25, further comprising entering one of the stores through an outside entrance.

29. (As filed) A method as in claim 25, wherein the inventory items in each store are different from each other.

30. (As filed) A method as in claim 25, wherein each store is independently managed.

31. (Twice amended) A method for enhancing display space within a building, the method comprising:

providing a building comprising a set of outer walls which define an interior;

dividing the building into [a plurality of] at least three separate stores by placing a plurality of dividers within the interior, wherein each divider includes at least [one opening] two openings and a generally circular isle circuiting through the openings [therein] to allow customers to pass through each of the stores along [an] the aisle;

supplying each store with a unique group of inventory items; and

a customer walking through each of the stores along the isle such that the customer passes through each doorway in a generally circular motion, with the dividers being arranged such that generally only one of the unique groups of items can be visualized at any given location within the interior when off the aisle.

32. (As filed) A method as in claim 31, wherein the dividers have two openings and an aisle which circuits through each of the openings, and walking along the aisle to circuit the interior.

33. (As filed) A method as in claim 31, further comprising standing in the aisle and looking the length of the aisle to visualize at least part of the interior of each store.

34. (As filed) A method as in claim 31, further comprising entering one of the stores through an outside entrance.

35. (As filed) A method as in claim 31, wherein the inventory items in each store are different from each other.

36. (As filed) A method as in claim 31, wherein each store is independently managed.